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Presentation To: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES  
CONCERNING UPCOMING BULLETIN 160-0003

West San Bernardino County Water District is a public agency - roughly 27 square miles inside our District boundary lines. We are located in the southwest portion of the San Bernardino County, actually in the San Bernardino Valley. We serve the communities of Bloomington and portions of the Cities of Rialto, Colton and Fontana. We have approximately 17,000 water services and we serve a population of about 50,000+ citizens.

Our water district expects to grow approximately three times our present size over the next 20 to 25 years according to our engineered master plan. Very similar numbers were given in Bulletin No. 160-98, which projected San Bernardino County's population could be expected to increase by over 100% in that same time period.

Our district currently uses a combination of ground water, approximately 70%; local surface water, approximately 20% and State Project Water, 10%.

Our valley has been blessed with what most would perceive to be an abundant supply of water and in fact we are presently trying to pump out high groundwater from the lower Bunker Hill water basin. But, with the possibility of California starting into a drought and development in this State, I must admit, I have deep concerns.

In the Department of Water Resources Bulletin No. 160-98, you have projected a shortage of nearly one million-acre feet in the south coastal region on an average year by 2020 and 1,300,000-acre feet in a drought situation and statewide from 2.4 to 6.2 million acre feet. If your projections are correct, as it appears we are

starting into a drought, then we definitely have a serious problem. I for one believe that you have underestimated our problem even with the shortcomings you speak of.

I believe you have severely underestimated the issue of environmental water. The environmental groups continue to make demand on water that has been put to beneficial use for many years, not only in this valley, but all over California. The State Water Project continues to have demands placed on it by the environmental community that in my perception has weakened the capability to deliver contracted amounts to many of the State's water contractors. In time of drought, when the supply is most needed, there have been supply issues. I can recall in the last drought, our local contractor, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, had times when they were limited to 10% of their contracted supply.

The issue of water quality was all but overlooked in Bulletin No. 160-98. This issue has serious implications for Southern California water purveyors, who have to meet DOHS regulations on one side of the issue and Regional Water Quality Control Board regulations on the other. With more demands being placed on the Delta and the California Water Plan, water quality will become more of an issue.

Another issue is the conveyance system itself. It has come into question on many occasions as many of us do not believe there is a capability to deliver the contracted amounts of water, even if the supply was available.

I have listed some of the concerns that I have with the State Water Project and I am in hopes that in your Bulletin 160-2003 you will be able to answer those concerns and come up with solutions to meet California's water needs into the future.

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General Manager

**West San Bernardino County**  
**Water District**



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